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<u>CLAIMS</u>

We claim:

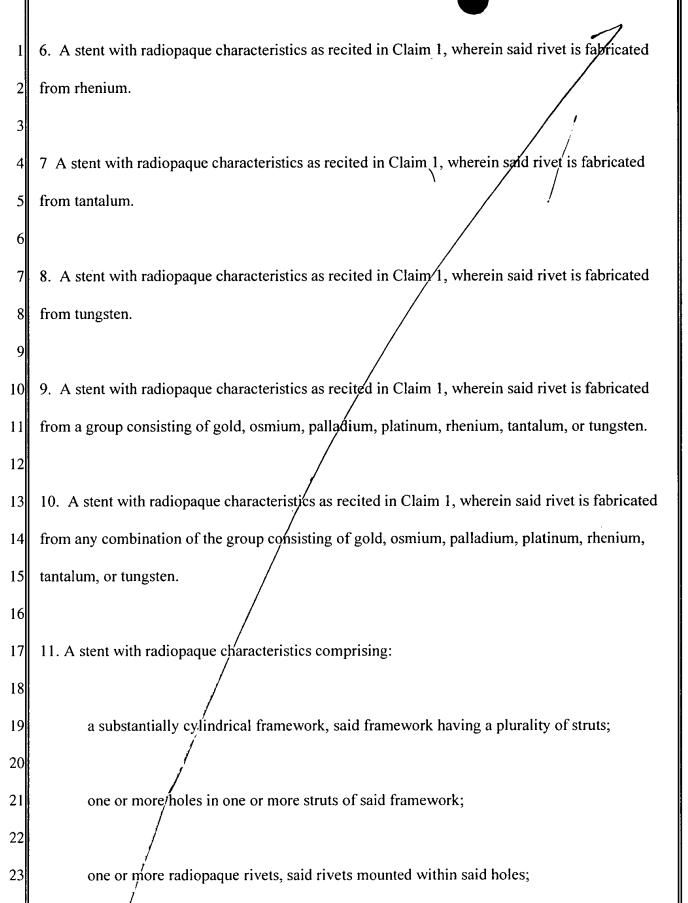
1. A stent with radiopaque characteristics comprising:

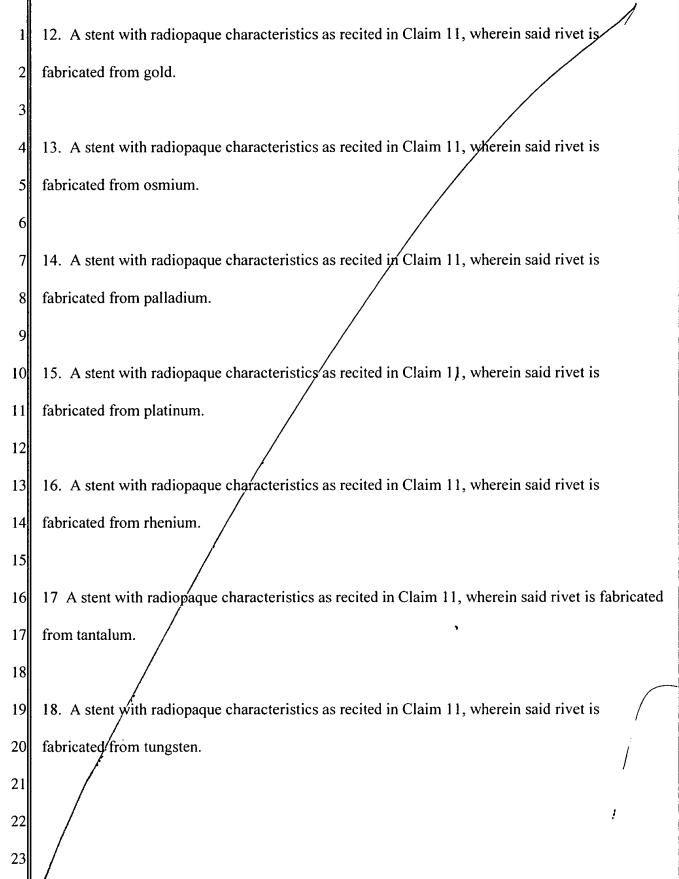
said stent as taught in the prior art, said stent having a plurality of expandable members;

one or more holes in one or more of the expandable members of said stent;

one or more radiopaque rivets, said rivets mounted within said holes.

- 2. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as recited in Claim 1, wherein said rivet is fabricated from gold.
- 3. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as recited in Claim 1, wherein said rivet is fabricated from osmium.
- 4. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as recited in Claim 1, wherein said rivet is fabricated from palladium.
- 5. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as recited in Claim 1, wherein said rivet is fabricated from platinum.





19. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as rec	ited in Claim 11, wherein said rivet is
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fabricated from a group consisting of gold, osmiu	ım, palladium, platinum, rheniym, tantalum, or
tungsten.	

- 20. A stent with radiopaque characteristics as recited in Claim 11, wherein said rivet is fabricated from any combination of the group consisting of gold, osmium, palladium, platinum, rhenium, tantalum, or tungsten.
- 21. The method of fabricating a stent with radiopaque characteristics;

creating a plurality of holes in one or more struts of such stent;

mounting radiopaque rivets in said holes.